DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

SAN BERNARDINO

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
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TRUDY RAYMUNDO Public Health Director

MAXWELL OHIKHUARE, M.D. Health Officer

January 2, 2013

Dear Local Healthcare Provider:

The County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health (DPH) understands the importance of promoting the accurate and secure exchange of health information and we are committed to helping local providers and hospitals attain meaningful use certification of their electronic health records as defined in the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act. Although we are not currently accepting electronic data for meaningful use certification, we are evaluating how to most effectively address and accommodate this requirement in the future.

This letter may serve as proof that DPH is allowing local providers and hospitals to claim exclusion for Meaningful Use Stage 1 attestation to electronically submit immunizations, lab results and syndromic surveillance data to the local health department. This waiver applies only to the County of San Bernardino's jurisdiction and does not certify to any other state or federal requirements. If your practice is in any other jurisdiction, please consult with that local health department.

Be assured that we are actively pursuing a solution to fulfill your need to attest Meaningful Use Stage 2 criteria and we expect to have the necessary systems in place early in 2013. We will announce this capability as soon as it is operational.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions and I wish you the best of luck in achieving meaningful use of your electronic health record.

Sincerely.

Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D.

Health Officer